

<b>Notice of Allowability</b>	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	10/017,415	LEE ET AL.
	Examiner Zeinab E. EL-Arini	Art Unit 1746

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1.  This communication is responsive to the amendment filed 07/29/04.
2.  The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-18 and 26-27 (renumbered 1-20).
3.  The drawings filed on 18 December 2001 are accepted by the Examiner.
4.  Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a)  All      b)  Some\*      c)  None      of the:
    1.  Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
    2.  Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
    3.  Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

5.  A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6.  CORRECTED DRAWINGS ( as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
  - (a)  including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review ( PTO-948) attached
    - 1)  hereto or 2)  to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
  - (b)  including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7.  DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

#### Attachment(s)

1.  Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2.  Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3.  Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),  
Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
4.  Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit  
of Biological Material
5.  Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6.  Interview Summary (PTO-413),  
Paper No./Mail Date 101204
7.  Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8.  Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9.  Other \_\_\_\_\_

*Zeinab El-Arini*

**ZEINAB EL-ARINI  
PRIMARY EXAMINER**

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### **EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT**

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Adam Volentine on 10/08/04.

The application has been amended as follows:

The title has been changed to read "A single type of semiconductor wafer cleaning apparatus".

In claim 1, line 16, claim 11, line 17, "diffusion" has been changed to read "dissolving".

In claims 26, 27, lines 4 and 5 have been deleted. In claim 26, line 10, and in claim 27, line 11, before "and", -----"de-ionized water supply means for supplying de-ionized water onto a wafer at a location outside said chamber when the wafer is mounted to the chuck, to thereby provide a layer of de-ionized water on the wafer;"----has been inserted.

2. Claims 1-18 and 26-27 are allowed.

3. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Franz (JP 11-054472) discloses device for treating wafer like object, particularly silicon wafer. Matsukawa et al. (5,964,954) disclose double-sided substrate cleaning apparatus and cleaning method using the same. JP'472 or Matsukawa et al. do not disclose a single type of semiconductor wafer cleaning apparatus comprising de-ionized water supply means for supplying de-ionized water onto a wafer at a location outside a chamber when the wafer is mounted to the chuck, to thereby provide a layer of de-ionized water on the wafer as claimed.

4. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The prior art of record failed to teach a single type of semiconductor wafer cleaning apparatus comprising de-ionized water supply means for supplying de-ionized water onto a wafer at a location outside a gas guard defining a chamber when the wafer is mounted to a chuck, to thereby provide a layer of de-ionized water on the wafer as claimed.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Zeinab E. EL-Arini whose telephone number is (571) 272-1301. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Michael Barr can be reached on (571) 272-1414. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

*Zeinab E. EL-Arini*  
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ZEE

010/12/04